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SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL

ASSURED OF CHURCH BACKING

DPS 85068

NEW YORK (DPS, March 28) -- Western Christian leaders have been quick to condemn the harassment and arrest of South African Christians who protested the March 21 killing of 19 blacks during an anniversary demonstration.

The Rev. Beyers Naude, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, and the Rev. Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, were among 200 persons detained March 26 after a worship service and an attempt to march on Parliament to protest the recent killings. They were arrested under the Internal Security Act, which prohibits all outdoor demonstrations, and were released a few hours later.

The previous day, Boesak and Naude had had police shotguns waved in their faces as they were barred from personally investigating the Langa township site where police killed 19 and wounded at least 35 others in what has been called a panicked overreaction to a demonstration. The deaths occurred 25 years to the day after the Sharpeville massacre of 69 blacks.

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In a telegram to Naude, who succeeded Bishop Desmond Tutu in the SACC leadership, Episcopal Church Center officers vowed continued support of the Council and its efforts against South Africa's oppression and reminded Naude of the confident words written from prison by German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who was killed by the Nazis after a lengthy imprisonment. "To do and dare -- not what you would, but what is right. Never to hesitate over what is within your power, but boldly to grasp what lies before you. Not in the flight of fancy, but only in the deed there is freedom. Away with timidity and reluctance! Out into the storm of event sustained only by the commandment of God and your faith, and freedom will receive your spirit with exultation."

The telegram also assured Naude that the Episcopal Church "stands firm in condemning the white supremacist policies of apartheid in South Africa. We join with those within the international community who are committed to peaceful, nonviolent change in unmasking the policies of the government of South Africa and exposing it as an instrument of oppression.

"The Episcopal Church will continue to petition the government of the United States to exert strong pressure on the government of South Africa. We will continue to urge U.S. corporations in South Africa to use their presence to aid in promoting creative, peaceful illumination of the web of apartheid laws. We will continue to support actively those leaders in South Africa who peacefully witness in the face of government violence."

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UN PANEL ADMITS

ANGLICAN COUNCIL

DPS 85069

NEW YORK (DPS, March 28) -- The Anglican Communion has been honored by a cordial welcome as one of the consultants to the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

The Communion won the status -- which gives it an active voice in UN educational, development and human rights deliberations -- in a meeting of the Council March 20 at which many Third World Council members spoke enthusiastically of the work of the Communion.

Status as a category II consultant to the Council means that the Communion is recognized as a broadly based world organization which is able to deal effectively and speak authoritatively on the issues before the Council. It gives the Communion a regular voice in Council deliberations and allows the Council to call upon the Communion as a resource. The Communion joins other world church bodies -- such as the Lutheran World Federation -- in this status.

The accord grows out of the concern of the Anglican primates, who, at their 1983 meeting in Kenya, explored ways in which the Third World members that are directly involved in and affected by the Council's work could take a more coordinated role in supporting the international community and exercising their unified strength in the face of a rising tide of nationalism.

The chief pastors agreed that the Economic and Social Council provided the best channel and asked the Anglican Consultative Council to pursue the matter. The Episcopal Church agreed to provide staff and logistical support to the endeavor.

Last year in Nigeria, the full ACC threw its support behind the effort, and the final steps were taken which ended in the endorsement last week.

That endorsement itself shows much about the way in which the world views the Anglican Communion. A number of organizations were seeking the same status, but only the Anglican Communion "needed no introduction," because countries as diverse as Libya -- which opened the discussion on the application -- and Cyprus -- which was one of the endorsers -- spoke warmly of the Communion's work.

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In reporting on the outcome, the Rev. Charles A. Cesaretti of the Episcopal Church Center Public Issues office, who, along with Canon Samir Habiby and Mrs. Robert Dawson of the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief, staffed the effort, told Archbishop Robert Runcie of Canterbury that the Libyan delegate had commended the Communion for its "well-known dedication to humanitarian work, for its global perspective and universal inclusiveness, for its organization which brings representatives from all continents into its decision making process and for its vast work with economy of central structure and budget."

Cyprus was joined in endorsing the application by delegates of Kenya, Ghana, Pakistan, Nigeria, Thailand, Cyprus and the United Kingdom.

On learning of the vote, Canon Samuel van Culin, secretary general of the Anglican Consultative Council, commented: "This action by the United Nations is a recognition of the international character of the Anglican Communion and the importance of the Church, especially in the developing world. The Anglican Communion is what it is because we share together traditions which include the churches in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Pacific and the Caribbean. I am grateful for the opportunity of this new relationship with the United Nations, and I look forward to contributing to the achievement of its goals."

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KENYANS LEARN (AND TEACH)

DEVELOPMENT WAYS AT UCLA

DPS 85070

LOS ANGELES (DPS, March 28) -- Twelve provincial development officers from the Anglican Province of Kenya are working at UCLA's African Studies Center in a special three-month training program.

The delegation, including six priests and six laypersons, is headed by the Ven. John Kago, secretary of the Province. Each of the others is a diocesan development officer in the Province.

The program is the result of grants from the U.S. government Agency for International Development and from the Episcopal Church's Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief and Venture in Mission programs, money from the latter having been raised by the Diocese of Florida's Venture campaign. The grants established development offices in each Kenyan diocese, training for the officers, and program money to help the newly appointed officers work with local communities for effective local projects.

According to Kago, the Church's participation in the program is part of "a wholistic approach to evangelism. The Church must be concerned with the whole man and the whole woman." Helping individual local persons better their own communities and living conditions is part of that approach.

At UCLA, the visitors work directly with the Rev. Stephen Commins, director of the Center's Development Institute. Their curriculum includes both theoretical and practical approaches to development work as well as extensive training in working with villagers to evaluate their local needs and to mobilize their work to meet those needs.

"If you tell people what to do, then they become dependent on you," notes Kago. "If you are working with them, then they own the project. And they work even harder and the project becomes more successful because it is part of them."

As in many African countries, development needs are so great in Kenya that the efforts of all are needed -- church and other voluntary agencies as well as the state. "They approach the problems from different angles," says Kago, "but they all work together and consider

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their contributions as complementary to one another's. There are no rivalries, and no duplications."

According to Commins, this is one of the largest groups to be trained simultaneously at the African Studies Center. Their presence here was a factor in the convening of an Inter-Anglican Development Conference involving participants from several other countries. (EDITORS: See DPS 85060, March 21)

The Center's Development Institute is a joint effort of the University and the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief. The Institute trains both overseas students (now including many from South America and the Pacific Islands as well as Africans) and American students planning to go overseas in development projects.

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EPISCOPAL CHURCH FUNDS

AID GRASSROOTS PROJECTS

DPS 85071

BLACKSBURG, Va. (DPS, March 28) -- The Episcopal Church made grants of \$90,800 to Appalachian grassroots projects through the Appalachian People's Service Organization (APSO) in 1984.

These grassroots projects are part of a program in which Church funds are given to projects which respond directly to human need on a local level. The Episcopal Church, through APSO, joins with 17 other denominations and ten Church agencies in the Commission on Religion in Appalachia's Development Projects Committee (CORA/ADPC). In the development process, local project representatives and denominational representatives set priorities and standards and select the 30 to 40 grassroots organizations for whom the CORA members will seek funds from their respective denominations.

APSO tries to raise \$100,000 annually from Episcopal Church funding sources such as the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief, United Thank Offering, and Coalition for Human Needs. All grants of this kind go to the designated project; none are used by APSO.

The Episcopal Church also provides funding to APSO and CORA from the general Church budget (\$70,000 in 1985). The remainder of APSO's administrative and program budget is met by funds from the 13 APSO dioceses, Venture in Mission contributions and other gifts.

In 1984, the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief awarded a total of \$18,500 to five projects; Coalition for Human Needs gave a total of \$32,500 to five projects and the Community Leadership and Development Fund (CLAD) made one grant of \$5,000. Three parishes granted a total of \$3,300 to three projects for use in 1984, with one of those parishes making an additional grant of \$1,500 for use in 1985.

The projects aided by Episcopal funds are scattered throughout the Appalachian area, coming from the Dioceses of Albany, Lexington, Mississippi, North Carolina, Southern Ohio, Tennessee, and West Virginia. Their scope of activities ranges from the Delhi, N.Y. project which seeks to develop a diversified agricultural base, cooperatives, and employment and training; through low-income gardens and markets in Burkhart, Ky. and an adult basic education course and remedial reading program in Cincinnati.

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DELAWARE BISHOP

PLANS TO RETIRE

DPS 85072

WILMINGTON, Del. (DPS, March 28) -- The Rt. Rev. William H. Clark, who has been bishop of the Diocese of Delaware for the past ten years, has announced his plans to retire at the end of 1985. Clark, who will be 66 at the time of his retirement, came to Delaware from Massachusetts, where he was executive director of the Worcester County Ecumenical Council. Before that, he was rector of St. Andrews's Church in Wellesly, Mass.

Clark succeeded Bishop William Mead who died at the age of 53, after serving five years as bishop.

Clark's interest in ecumenism carried over into his episcopate in Delaware. To commemorate his years as bishop and to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Diocese of Delaware, an ecumenical service is planned for May 5 at St. Andrew's School in Middletown, Del.

During Clark's term as bishop, he coordinated the diocese's fund raising program with the national Church's Venture in Mission. More than \$2.5 million was raised to support diocesan programs at home and abroad.

Under Clark's guidance, a Companion relationship with the Diocese of Haiti was begun and renewed for a second two-year period.

During the transition period, an interim bishop will provide episcopal services, visitations and pastoral care. The Standing Committee of the Diocese will be the ecclesiastical authority until a new bishop is consecrated. According to the schedule, the interim bishop will serve from Sept. 15, 1985, to June 30, 1986. The new bishop is expected to be elected in June, 1986 and consecrated in October.

A profile development committee and a committee for search and nomination will work during the period to produce a slate of candidates to be voted on at a special convention of the diocese.

Clark and his wife Rosemary plan to move back to Massachusetts following his retirement to be near family and friends in the area where he spent most of his ministry.

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WASHINGTON, D.C. (E.N.S.) - The Rev. William A. Clark, who has been bishop of the Diocese of Delaware for the past 10 years, has announced his plans to retire at the end of 1985. Clark, who will be 64 at the time of his retirement, has no children. His wife, Elizabeth, who is a homemaker, lives in Delaware. Clark was born in 1921 and was ordained a priest in 1944. He served in various capacities in the Episcopal Church, including as a priest, rector, and bishop. He was elected bishop of Delaware in 1975.

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PICTURE CAPTIONS

Central American Life Explored

DPS 85073

(85073/1) -- A team of parishioners, Province IX leaders and Episcopal Church Center staff members has returned from a second visit to Central America and will report its findings to the April meeting of the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church. As with the visit a year ago, this team made an effort to pay pastoral visits to most of the Anglican congregations and see, first hand, the variety of ministries such as the housing renovation shown at right here in San Juan, Costa Rica. The project is expected to continue along the row and bring the remaining ramshackle structures up to a livable standard for use by the city's poor.

(85073/2) In each country that the Central America team visited, the members made every effort to meet with a broad cross-section of people including senior government officials, opposition, labor and business leaders, and academics. The Rev. Charles Cesaretti, left, Public Issues officer at the Episcopal Church Center, and Bishop Leonardo Romero, right, president of Province IX and bishop of Northern Mexico, pose here after a long conversation with El Salvador's president Jose Napoleon Duarte.

(EDITORS: These photographs may also be used to accompany DPS 85062, "Central America Team Ends Second Visit" from the March 21 mailing.)

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